HEAD'S BLOG...

Stant It

We celebrated National Poetry day on Thursday this week Children took part in class 'poetry slams' whereby children performed poems in as entertaining a way as possible! It was a fun way to get children into this genre of writing and there were some fab performances! Thanks to Miss Moore for organising.

Do you know someone who will be starting school next September? We are holding open events for prospective families to come and find out about our school after half-term. Please see the information on the next page and pass on to your friends and family.

We are currently looking for eager beavers to join 'BB Friends', our parents fundraising committee. The current chair is no longer able to fulfil this role so we are looking for someone to take the lead as well as an enthusiastic bunch to support. No experience necessary! If you're interested, please let Sam in the office know by emailing:bishopbronescombe.secretary@celticcross.education

Finally, we are celebrating Harvest on Monday with Revd Jules leading online Collective Worship. As usual, we will be taking in donations for St Austell Foodbank. If you'd like to donate something, please see the list on the next page.

Have a lovely weekend! Ms Carmichael

Coronavirus reminder

If your child develops any symptoms of Coronavirus (persistent cough, high temperature or loss of taste / smell), s/he MUST NOT come to school and school must be informed. Call 119 or get a test online at:

https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name

If you believe that your child is well enough to attend school and they have only symptoms of a 'common cold' such as:

runny nose, sore throat or a mild cough they are permitted to attend.

NB: All absences must be reported to our school office by calling 01726 64322. You can leave a message if outside of office hours. Please DO NOT report absences via Class Dojo or email. Thank you.

Polite reminder: School gates / doors open at 8:45am. Please do not enter until this time as your child may not be supervised and we cannot ensure their safety.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2021/22 Autumn Term Diary Dates:

Tues 12th/Wed 13th Oct—Y6 Penrice open days (appointment needed)

Wed 13th Oct—Y1 Hearing screenings

Mon 1st Nov—Inset day

Tues 2nd Nov—School photos

Wed 3rd Nov—Nasal flu vaccinations

Mon 25th Oct—Fri 29th Oct —Half term

2021/22 Inset Days:

Mon 1st Nov 2021 / Mon 25th Jul 2022 / Tues 26th Jul 2022

OTHER NOTICES







SCHOOL DINNERS

Like most supermarkets, the school kitchen is currently experiencing issues with food deliveries. This could have a knock on effect with available menu options. There may be a slight alteration to meals served but disruption will be kept to a minimum.

Thank you for your understanding with this.















School Admissions

The online application process for Starting School, Transfer to Junior School and Transfer to Secondary School for September 2022 has now started. Detailed information about the admissions process is available online or on request from the School Admissions Team.

Please ensure you name more than one preference. It will not mean less chance of securing place at your preferred school. Please note that if you do not apply on time, your preferred school's may already be full.

If you need support with your application process, please contact the office, the Family Information Service (0800 587 8191) or School Admissions Team (0300 1234 101).

FANTASTIC WORK









ONLINE SAFETY

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one game of many which we hallow to interfact adults should hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they

What Parents Need to Know about



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Condo

Pokémon GO has been among the world's most popular mobile games since its spectacular release in 2016. It's recently enjoyed a resurgence, thanks partly to people combining entertainment and exercise during lockdown. Pokémon GO – like the Pokémon TV show, trading card series and other video games – players capture, train arbattle with their Pokémon creatures: physically exploring locations while using augmented reality via their phon screen. The game generally provides a positive experience, but there are still some safety concerns to consider

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

Pokémon GO requires players to visit in-game landmarks like Pokéstops and Gyms. These are often situated at public real-world locations such as churches or post offices. Sometimes, however, they car indvertently end up being placed in dangerous areas which are unsuitable for children, even when accompanied by an adult: near a construction site or a main road, for example.

STRANGERS & MEETING OFFLINE

Players often cooperate with friends in the game, and there are many online discussion hangouts. As well as shoring tips and info, these groups may arrange to meet offline to catch Pokemon or attend raids (communal events where players flock to the same real-world place for a mass battle). This can put children at risk of being messaged and invited to meet by strangers under the pretence of talking about the game.

DATA COLLECTION

When a player logs into their
Pokémon GO account, the game
collects personal data about the user
and their device. Locations, emails, names,
ages and even camera images can all be
accessed. What then happens to this
information is open to debate. Niantic, the
game's developers, maintain that they do
not sell user information to third parties –
but the fact that they have it at all is a
concern, nonetheless.

VISIBLE PROFILES & LOCATION

Pokémon GO players can add each other as 'friends' in the game by sharing their trainer codes. Two trainers who do this can then view each other's information, such as their username. If a username gives any clues to the player's real name or personal details, a stranger may then be able to look them up online. The game also lets users upload images to social media, which could publicly disclose a child's exact location.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

The game uses a currency called Pokecoins, which can be bought for real money (in bundles between £0.79 and £99.99) and exchanged for in-game items such as Pokeballs and berries. It's extremely easy for a child to purchase Pokecoins (even accidentally) if there's a payment method connected to their mobile phone — and possibly rack up a sizeable bill without realising it!

Advice for Parents & Carers

PLAY ALONGSIDE YOUR CHILD

Finding and catching Pokémon with young ones could turn into a great mutual hobby. At 25 years old, it's one of the few games franchises that spans two generations. Enjoying the game together will give you plenty of new things to talk about with your child and if you played Pokémon in your own childhood, you might impress them with your knowledge of the digital critters!

ENCOURAGE AWARENESS

Remind your child of the physical dangers they could face while catching Pokemon and emphasise staying aware of their surroundings. The game will often alert children (through their phone) when they are close to an interesting Pokemon item — usually sending them excitedly rushing off to find it — so they should never play Pokemon 60 near busy roads or in places they don't know well.

DISGUISE THE EXERCISE

One of Pokémon GO's benefits is that it encourages young (and not-so-young!) ones to get exercise outdoors. Some parts of the game can be completed from home, but it's best experienced while walking around your local area. Certain tasks (like visiting Pokéstops) can be repeated every day – and an hour outside having fun catching Pokémon will hardly feel like exercise at all!

USE AN OLDER PHONE

If children use an older phone to play Pokémon GO, then they won't be walking around with their own new device, which could get broken or stolen. Parents are also far less likely to have left a credit card linked to the old mobile. It also means that you can limit the amount of information used to set up an account, and what companies who gain access to your data can do with it.

AGREE PLAY BOUNDARIES

Ensure your child knows where they are (and aren't) allowed to go searching for Pokémon, when they have to be home, and how often they can play the game. Talk to other young Pokémon GO fans' parents or carers to see what boundaries they set for their children. Lunchtimes (if allowed by the school) or after school are ideal times for getting some exercise and catching all those Pokémon!

Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for several years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the gaming editor of two the biggest gaming news sites in the world: UNILAD Gaming and GAMING bible. Having started gaming at a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work – but, more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.





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SOURCES: https://heimdalsecurity.com/blog/is-pokemon-go-safe/ https://bleedingcost.com/games/pokemon-go-announces-quality-of-life-updates-for-february-2021/



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